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THE FIELD MUSEUM MEMBER MAGAZINE





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A George III Silver Epergne, Thomas Pitts, London, 1788

Fernand Leger, *Deux femmes tenant des fleurs*, 1954

Pablo Picasso, *Portrait de Jacqueline de face I*, 1961

Alexander Calder, *The Long Brass Tail on Black and Red*, 1956

Thomas Hart Benton, *Discussion*, 1967

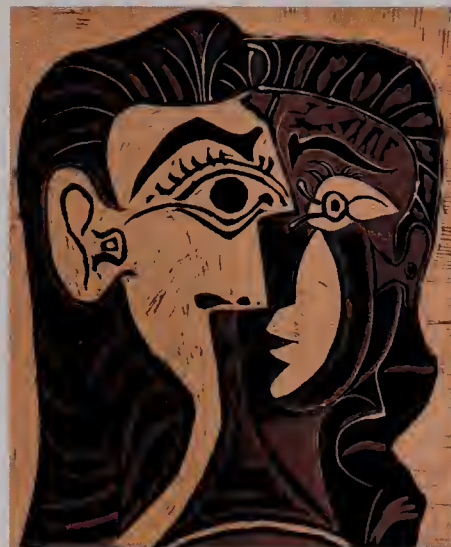
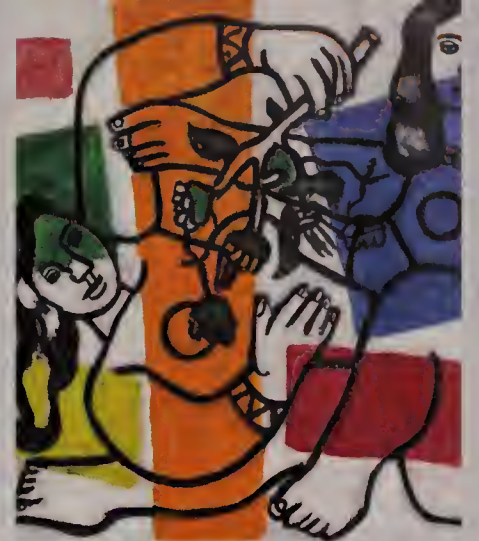
Jean Dubuffet, *Site avec 3 personnages*, 1981
(from *Psycho-sites* series)

A Chinese Blue and White Porcelain Ewer

Robert Henri, *Bridget Lavelle*, 1926

William Robinson Leigh, *The Roper*

Francoise-Xavier Lalanne, *Moutons de Pierre*, (a pair of sheep)



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Franck Mercurio

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In The Field magazine. Email your
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IN THE FIELD (ISSN #1051-4546)
is published three times a year by
Maggie Malone of Medici, Inc.,
for The Field Museum. Opinions
expressed by authors are their own
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358201 / A115210d_028B / John Weinstein

ON THE COVER

This mask replicates a 7,000-
year old mummy mask from Peru.
The ancient Peruvians were the
world's first practitioners of
mummification, thousands of
years before the Egyptians. Learn
more in the new exhibition,
Mummies. (See page 10.)

The Field
Museum

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Get ready!
Something **BIG** is coming to The Field Museum.

See centerfold for more details.





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dear **member,**

In September 1893, during the final weeks of the World's Columbian Exposition, the state of Illinois granted a charter incorporating a new museum for "the accumulation and dissemination of knowledge and the preservation and exhibition of objects illustrating art, archaeology, science and history." One month later, in October 1893, Marshall Field I pledged a donation of \$1,000,000 (more than \$25 million in today's dollars) to get the Museum up and running. The Field Museum was born.



KYLE FLUBACKER

In the 125 years since its founding, The Field Museum has gone through many transformations—generations of curators have come and gone, exhibitions have opened and closed, and scientific knowledge has progressed and changed. But the Museum's mission remains the same: to build collections, support research, and communicate science, fueling a journey of discovery across time.

Our 125th-anniversary year marks a new period of transformation, which you, our members, can experience through a series of celebratory events in 2018. Thanks to a generous gift from Ken Griffin, CEO and founder of Citadel, Stanley

Field Hall will undergo renovations this spring as a new titanosaur is installed and SUE, the *T. rex*, begins her move into a new gallery. The Field will also unveil a new look and feel inside the Museum as we continue to promote our scientific mission around the world.

Many more events and developments related to the Museum's 125th anniversary will be revealed in the coming months. I invite you to join us in celebrating our milestone birthday and thank you for your continued support of the Museum.



RICHARD W. LARIVIERE, PHD

PRESIDENT AND CEO



Majnun Dies on Layla's Grave – illustration from the Persian manuscript of the Khamsa by Nizami from the Stage Hermitage Museum

Layla and Majnun

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- Observer

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Supporter Spotlight

BOBBY and SWATI MEHTA

Interviewed by Mary Jane Keitel

Bobby Mehta, Field Museum trustee since 2008, is the former CEO of TransUnion Corporation LLC with years of top-level management experience in international business and financial services. Bobby and his wife Swati share a strong commitment to education. They are generous donors to the Learning Center endowment, the Women's Board Gala, and the Trustee Annual Fund. **ITF**

CHERI EISENBERG



“Great natural history museums have a huge responsibility to be the record keepers of our environment and our world.

I don't think this is widely understood. Our challenge is how we expose the value—the wealth—of The Field Museum's collection and its relevance to all who are grappling with today's pressing issues. Most people will understand it through the stories we tell and how we incorporate those stories in our exhibitions, communications, and education programs. Stories endure....that's how we can make awareness more concrete.” —Bobby Mehta

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MUMMIES

Kate Golembiewski,
PR and Science Communications Manager

Mummies. The word conjures images of pyramids and pharaohs, limestone walls lined with hieroglyphs, scorching deserts under the Egyptian sun. And ancient Egypt is an important part of the story of mummification. But it's not the entire story.

The Field Museum's newest special exhibition, *Mummies*, reveals the ways cutting-edge technologies allow scientists to see mummies like never before. CT scanners and 3D imaging enable researchers to peer through the ancient wrappings and learn about the real people whose mummified remains have lasted to this day, including those from other cultures and places besides ancient Egypt.

Mummification has been practiced all over the world for millennia—the Chinchorro people of Peru and Chile began mummifying their dead around 5,000 BC—more than two thousand years before the Egyptians. The Field Museum's collections contain mummies from South American cultures in addition to ancient Egypt, and this exhibition shows the role

mummification played in the two regions over thousands of years. Visitors can see real mummies and other ancient artifacts from Egypt and Peru, explore those objects with digital interactives, and gaze into full-size dioramas depicting Egyptian and Peruvian burials.

"One of the unique things about this exhibition is the inclusion of the Peruvian mummification traditions, which started much earlier than in Egypt and lasted until the Spanish conquest 500 years ago," explains Associate Curator Ryan Williams. "That 7,000-year history of Andean mummification is something most people have never heard previously. Visitors are fascinated to learn about these civilizations that are not generally well known."

The exhibition has been a long time in the making. The Field Museum built it to travel, and over the last few years, it's journeyed around the country, from New York to Los Angeles.

"It's been a great way for us to share Field Museum science with people all over the country, not just in Chicago," explains Exhibitions Project Manager Janet Hong.

But for the final lap of its tour, *Mummies* is back at The Field Museum where it began, just in time for the Museum's 125th anniversary.

"Because the exhibition is back at its home base, we are able to include some artifacts that were too fragile to send on the road," says Hong. These rarely displayed objects include Inca ceramic vessels called *urpu* and the mummy of an Egyptian youth.

But the exhibition is more than just a collection of artifacts—it tells a story about discovery.



Opposite, top: Ancient Egyptians preserved organs separately from mummies and placed them within canopic jars representing protective deities.

Opposite, bottom: This Nazca vessel from Peru (circa AD 600) portrays a preserved head, its mouth sewn shut with cactus spines.

This page: Intact since she was carefully preserved in Roman-era Egypt (30 BC–AD 646), this mummy's inner secrets were finally revealed in 2011 using CT scanning.

"This great exhibition allows visitors to see how we use modern technologies to learn about the lives of ancient peoples and cultures," says Curator Bill Parkinson. "Before, you would have to unwrap the mummy, or even cut it open, to learn about it. Now we can use non-destructive methods to learn so much more about the past."

The stories in *Mummies* reveal a more personal, human side of the individuals within the wrappings. The scans of one woman who lived 1,500 years ago in Egypt show that she had curly hair and an overbite; she died in her forties and probably had tuberculosis. The CT scan of a mummy bundle from Peru revealed the remains of a mother and her child, along with goods buried with them such as food and weaving spindles.

In addition to the CT scans, the exhibition contains several sculptures created by French artist Élisabeth Daynès, who used 3D data to create lifelike renderings of how mummified people might have appeared.

"The sculptures are beautiful, and stunningly realistic—you get the feeling you're really face-to-face with people who lived thousands of years ago," says Hong. **ITF**

***Mummies* opens March 16, 2019
and closes April 21, 2019.**

**Member preview days: March 14 and 15, 12-5pm
(no reservations needed)**

Member-only lecture: March 21, 5:30-9pm

This exhibition was created by The Field Museum.

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UNITED



By Franck Mercurio, Editor, with Matt Von Konrat, PhD,
Adjunct Curator and McCarter Collections Manager

Collection News

GIFT TO BOTANY

SCIENTISTS ESTIMATE THERE ARE ABOUT 400,000 PLANT SPECIES IN THE WORLD. OF THESE, MORE THAN 50,000 ARE KNOWN FOR THEIR MEDICINAL PROPERTIES. Field Museum Adjunct Curator and Professor Emeritus of Pharmacognosy at the University of Illinois at Chicago Djaja Djendoel ("Doel") Soejarto, PhD, has studied and collected many of these plants throughout his long career. In 2017, Soejarto arranged a gift of approximately 30,000 tropical plant specimens from the University of Illinois at Chicago to the John G. Searle Herbarium at The Field Museum. The collection, compiled by Soejarto and his colleagues, is one of the largest gifts of its kind in the Museum's history.

Originally from Indonesia, Soejarto earned a PhD in biology from Harvard University; his academic areas of expertise include plant taxonomy, ethnobotany, economic botany, and pharmacognosy (the study of medicinal compounds extracted from plants and other natural sources). Soejarto specializes in tropical species from Asia, and his major contribution to the Museum is the collection of plant specimens gathered from the Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Laos, and Taiwan.

In the early 1990s, scientists at the U.S. National Cancer Institute discovered anti-HIV compounds called calanolides procured from specimens of the flowering trees *Calophyllum lanigerum* and *Calophyllum teysmannii* collected by Soejarto and his team in the Malaysian state of Sarawak on the island

of Borneo. Subsequently, The Field Museum mounted a special exhibition in the Botany Hall about the discovery of calanolides and the development of these anti-viral compounds as a drug for human use.

Soejarto has also been invaluable in his public outreach activities over the years, and you may have seen him at Members' Nights speaking about the medicinal properties of plants.

"Doel's career is a shining testament, not only to his brilliant scholarship and field prowess, but to the vital contributions natural history collections can make in improving our quality of life," says Rusty Russell, director of the Gantz Family Collections Center.

Currently, four staff members, three volunteers, and one postdoctoral researcher are busy cataloging and preparing the 30,000 plant specimens for transfer to The Field Museum. Who knows which of these plants might yield insights about the next generation of naturally derived medications. **ITF**

Doel Soejarto (foreground) identifies *Acronychia pedunculata*, a medicinal plant in the citrus family as Khammanh Phoulivong (background) looks on.

MOUACHANH XAYVUE

Stanley Field Hall: A NEW LOOK to Celebrate a Milestone

By Franck Mercurio, Editor

OVER THE COURSE OF ITS 95-YEAR HISTORY, STANLEY FIELD HALL, THE MUSEUM'S MAIN ATRIUM, HAS WELCOMED MILLIONS OF VISITORS AND HOSTED THOUSANDS OF EVENTS AND PROGRAMS.

The Hall has also seen its share of changes with different specimens, artifacts, and displays rotating in and out every few decades.

"When I started at the Museum in 1979, there was a tyrannosaur in Stanley Field Hall, the *Daspletosaurus* that's now in *Evolving Planet*," said Bill Simpson, the Museum's head of geological collections. "In the mid-1990s, we replaced it with the *Brachiosaurus* cast that's now on the terrace outside the Museum, and in 2000 we welcomed SUE."

Now in 2018, in celebration of The Field's 125th anniversary, more changes are coming—BIG ones! A cast of the largest dinosaur ever discovered—a titanosaur called *Patagotitan mayorum*—will soon be installed in Stanley Field Hall. And SUE the *T. rex* will receive a makeover and a new home in the *Griffin Halls of Evolving Planet*.

The titanosaur's arrival this spring (see centerfold) and the opening of SUE's new gallery in spring 2019 are possible thanks to the generous support of Ken Griffin, the founder and CEO of Citadel. Griffin is also providing funds for the special exhibition *Antarctic Dinosaurs* (opening this summer), its accompanying education programs, and updates to *Evolving Planet*.

"The Field Museum has a huge impact on our ability to understand and appreciate dinosaurs," said Griffin. "I'm thrilled to partner with such an extraordinary institution to help put natural wonders like SUE and *Patagotitan* on display."

Looking down from their pedestals high above Stanley Field Hall, four allegorical sculptures or muses—representing Research, Documentation, Dissemination of Knowledge, and Natural Science—bear witness to decades of change at the Museum. Yet, they also serve as reminders of The Field Museum's scientific mission, which is constant and unchanging. **ITF**





Something

BIG

is coming!

Look inside...



Stanley Field Hall: A NEW LOOK to Celebrate a Milestone

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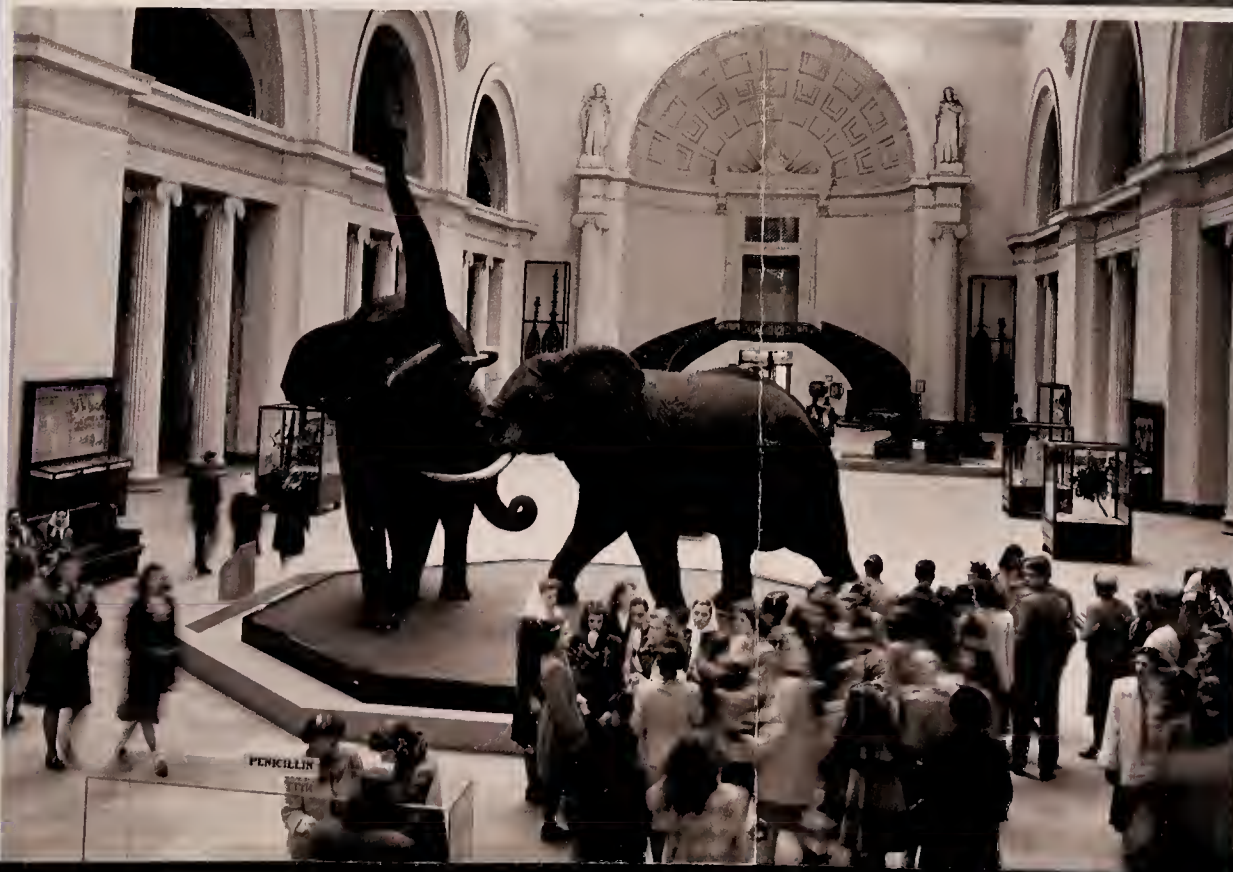
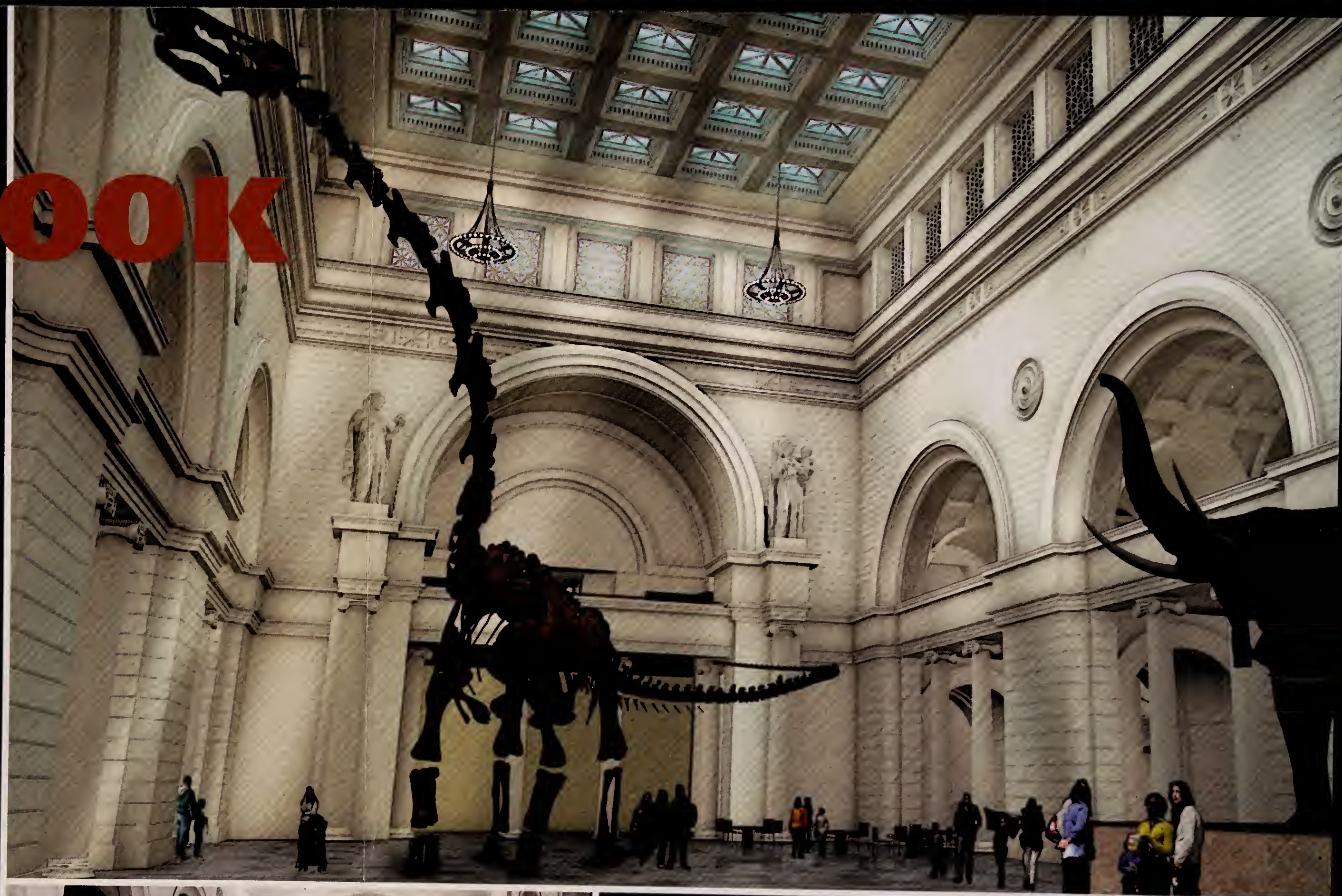
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Something
BIG
is coming!

SEVEN STORIES TALL AND COVERING HALF AN ACRE
OF FLOOR SPACE, STANLEY FIELD HALL IS IMMENSE!
THE WORLD'S LARGEST DINOSAUR,
PATAGOTITAN MAYORUM [PAT-UH-GO-TIE-TAN MY-OR-UM],
WILL FEEL RIGHT AT HOME INSIDE ITS SPACIOUS NEW OIGS.

TITANOSAUR!

By Kate Golembiewski, PR and Science Communications Manager

A cast of *Patagotitan*, **the biggest dinosaur ever discovered**

will join The Field Museum's ranks this spring, thanks to a gift from the Kenneth C. Griffin Charitable Fund, one of the largest private contributions ever made to a Chicago museum.

Part of a group of dinosaurs called titanosaurs, the Museum's *Patagotitan* was cast from the fossil bones of seven specimens excavated in Argentina. The giant, long-necked herbivore stretches 122 feet from snout to tale—longer than two accordion CTA buses placed end-to-end. It's so tall that visitors on the Museum's second-floor balcony will be able to see eye-to-eye with the creature.

No barrier will surround *Patagotitan*. Visitors will be able to approach the titanosaur, touch its cast bones, and even walk underneath it.

"The titanosaur is huge, and it will look right at home in Stanley Field Hall," said Senior Exhibitions Project Manager Hilary Hansen. "The space is big and majestic—the perfect backdrop for the world's largest dinosaur."

To make space for *Patagotitan*, Museum staff will de-install SUE from her current mount in February and move her into a new home inside the *Griffin Halls of Evolving Planet*. (See the back of this insert for more about SUE's move and new custom-designed home.) The titanosaur skeleton will be constructed and on view beginning in late spring. Some of *Patagotitan*'s real bones will also be on display, including an eight-foot-long thighbone. 117

HOW BIG IS THE TITANOSAUR?

HUGE. It's the largest known animal to walk on land and the longest animal ever to live. Period. At 122 feet long, it's 22 feet longer than a professional basketball court. When installed, the skeleton's head will rise 28 feet above the floor.

HOW MUCH BIGGER IS THE TITANOSAUR THAN SUE?

SUE's the biggest *T. rex* ever discovered. She's 40.5 feet long and probably weighed nine tons. The Museum's titanosaur is 122 feet long and weighed 70 tons when alive.

HOW MUCH BIGGER IS THE TITANOSAUR THAN A BLUE WHALE?

The blue whale is currently the biggest animal on the planet. An adult blue whale can weigh as much as 160 tons (90 tons heavier than the titanosaur), but averages only 80 feet in length (about 40 feet shorter than the titanosaur).

WHEN DID THE TITANOSAUR LIVE?

Patagotitan lived during the middle Cretaceous period. The fossil specimens from the excavation site in Argentina date to approximately 102 million years ago.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Patagotitan mayorum [pat-uh-go-TIE-tan MY-or-um] "Patago" is derived from Patagonia, the region of southern South America where the fossils were excavated. "Titan" is derived from the giant beings of Greek mythology. The species name honors the Mayo family for their hospitality during fieldwork.

HOW DID THE MUSEUM ACQUIRE THE TITANOSAUR?

The Field Museum purchased the cast from the Museo Paleontológico Egidio Feruglio in Argentina and secured a loan of the real fossils from the same museum.

WHO EXCAVATED THE TITANOSAUR?

Led by paleontologists Diego Pol, PhD, and Jose Luis Carballido, PhD, crews from the Museo Paleontológico Egidio Feruglio in Argentina excavated the titanosaur specimens at La Flecha ranch in Chubut Province, Argentina.

WHAT WAS THE TITANOSAUR'S HABITAT?

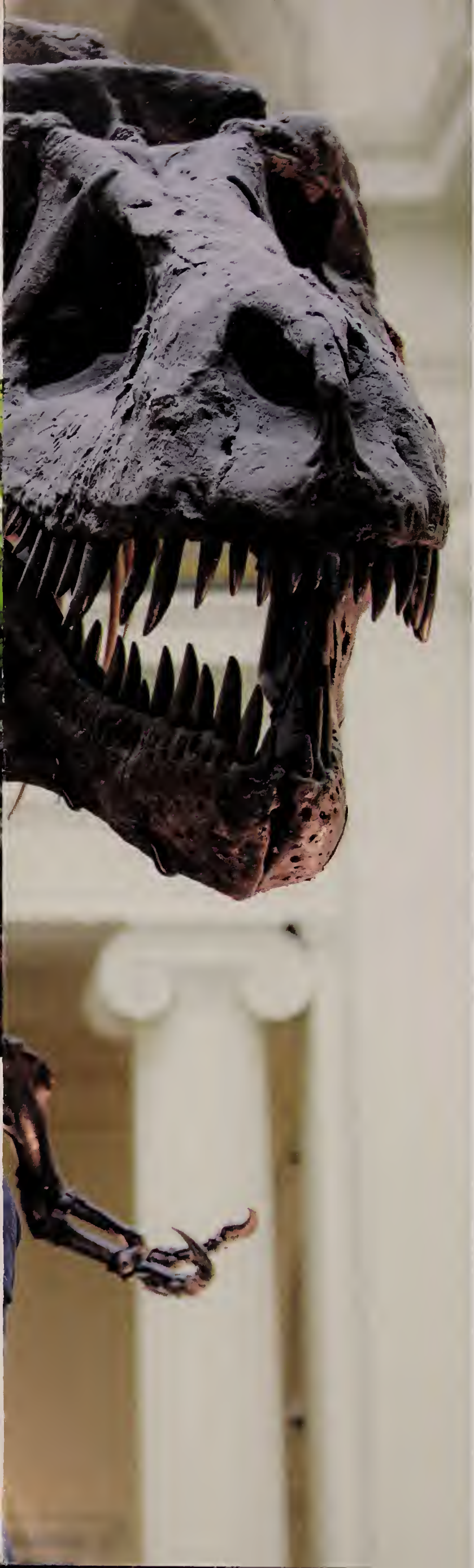
Fossil wood from the same geological formation suggests that this arid region of southern Argentina was once forested during the time of the titanosaurs when Patagonia was part of the supercontinent known as Gondwana.

WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TITANOSAUR?

Read more in "A new giant titanosaur sheds light on body mass evolution among sauropod dinosaurs" at rsob.royalsocietypublishing.org. The discovery and excavation are featured in a documentary hosted by David Attenborough for the BBC: *Attenborough and the Giant Dinosaur*.

"The Field Museum's never-ending goal is to offer the best possible dinosaur experiences. Ken Griffin's long-time support is a major step forward in achieving that goal," says Field Museum President Richard Lariviere, PhD. "With this extraordinary gift from Ken, we'll be able to create a more scientifically accurate and engaging home for SUE the *T. rex* and welcome the world's largest dinosaur to The Field."

You, too, can be a part of something BIG.
Stay tuned for details on how to "adopt" a titanosaur bone and become a part of Field Museum history.



A New Home for SUE

By Kate Golembiewski, PR and Science Communications Manager

Since SUE the *T. rex* was discovered in 1990, scientists have learned much more about her. Research on the largest, most complete *Tyrannosaurus rex* has given us a better idea of what her species actually looked like. To reflect this, SUE will be revamped with scientific updates and moved to her own custom-designed gallery inside the *Griffin Halls of Evolving Planet*.

"In addition to getting a new space that showcases what an amazing specimen SUE is, we'll also be able to update the mount to reflect what we've learned about tyrannosaurs in the years since we first put her on display," says Curator of Dinosaurs Pete Makovicky. "It gives us a chance to tell a more complete story scientifically."

The most dramatic scientific change to SUE will be the addition of her gastralium—bones that look like an additional set of ribs stretched across her belly. Scientists think the gastralium helped dinosaurs breathe by providing structural support in place of a muscular diaphragm like humans have.

Gastralia are rarely preserved in tyrannosaurs, and scientists weren't quite sure how to position the bones when SUE's skeleton was mounted in 2000. The addition will change her look. "T. rex had a bulging belly—it wasn't sleek and gazelle-like the way you might think from looking at SUE now without her gastralium," explains Makovicky. "We'll also update her body stance, so she'll be walking rather than skulking, her arms will come down a little, and we'll readjust her wishbone."

These changes will make it clear what a huge animal SUE really was, and her new home in *Evolving Planet* will emphasize her size. The new 5,800-square-foot exhibition space will feature multimedia technology, digital interactives, and fossils discovered alongside SUE that illustrate the world in which she lived. The new gallery will be a state-of-the-art experience worthy of the world's best *T. rex* fossil.

SUE will be de-installed from Stanley Field Hall in February. She is scheduled to be unveiled in her new home in the spring of 2019. ITF

See page 22 for a special members' event celebrating SUE's impending move.



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Working with images provided by Thorsten Lumbsch, Chicago-based artist Jenny Kendler created this photomontage of lichens.

Staff Spotlight THORSTEN LUMBSCH

By Franck Mercurio, Editor, with Mark Alvey, Science & Education

GN92427_004AD / JOHN WEINSTEIN



You may have met him at Members' Nights—a charming guy talking enthusiastically about fungi and lichens. Immediately, you recognize him as an authority on the subject and perhaps have even guessed that he is a curator of lichenology. But maybe you didn't know our scientist is

also a lecturer at the University of Chicago, past president of the International Association for Lichenology, managing editor of a leading fungi journal, and an investigator on research grants in the United States, Brazil, and Spain.

And as of this past summer, Thorsten Lumbsch, PhD, is also Vice President of Science & Education at The Field Museum. In his new role, Lumbsch oversees four centers within the Museum: the Gantz Family Collections Center, the Integrative Research Center, the Keller Science Action Center, and the Learning Center. Across these four distinct yet complimentary areas, Lumbsch leads a staff of 188 who manage the Museum's nearly 40 million objects, provide educational programs and scientific training for thousands of students of all ages, and conduct research and fieldwork around the world.

When he is not busy with his managerial duties—and chatting with folks at Members' Nights—Lumbsch indulges his passion: exploring the diversity of lichens. These extremely revealing organisms (symbioses between fungi and algae) are nature's indicators of air pollution, forest health, and climate change, and provide ideal models for studying symbiotic interactions in evolution.

And among those who study lichens, Lumbsch is a superstar. At age 15 he published his first scientific paper. In 1993 he received a PhD from the University of Essen, and after a professorship at the University of Duisburg-Essen, joined the Museum in 2003. His publications just surpassed 480 papers in addition to five books and 20 book chapters. He collaborates on research projects with colleagues in Thailand, Spain, and Kenya and conducts fieldwork in those three countries and many more—plus Antarctica—and has collaborated on the description of more than 280 new lichen species.

"Thorsten has the wonderful gift of making his scientific work as accessible to the public as to the specialist," said President and CEO Richard W. Lariviere, PhD. "He understands the scientific mission of The Field Museum with a clarity that makes him one of our most valuable colleagues." **ITF**



A New Home for SUE

By Kate Golembiewski, PR and Science Communications Manager

Since SUE the *T. rex* was discovered in 1990, scientists have learned much more about her. Research on the largest, most complete *Tyrannosaurus rex* has given us a better idea of what her species actually looked like. To reflect this, SUE will be revamped with scientific updates and moved to her own custom-designed gallery inside the *Griffin Halls of Evolving Planet*.

"In addition to getting a new space that showcases what an amazing specimen SUE is, we'll also be able to update the mount to reflect what we've learned about tyrannosaurs in the years since we first put her on display," says Curator of Dinosaurs Pete Makovicky. "It gives us a chance to tell a more complete story scientifically."

The most dramatic scientific change to SUE will be the addition of her gastralia—bones that look like an additional set of ribs stretched across her belly. Scientists think the gastralia helped dinosaurs breathe by providing structural support in place of a muscular diaphragm like humans have.

Gastralia are rarely preserved in tyrannosaurs, and scientists weren't quite sure how to position the bones when SUE's skeleton was mounted in 2000. The addition will change her look. "T. rex had a bulging belly—it wasn't sleek and gazelle-like the way you might think from looking at SUE now without her gastralia," explains Makovicky. "We'll also update her body stance, so she'll be walking rather than skulking, her arms will come down a little, and we'll readjust her wishbone."

These changes will make it clear what a huge animal SUE really was, and her new home in *Evolving Planet* will emphasize her size. The new 5,800-square-foot exhibition space will feature multimedia technology, digital interactives, and fossils discovered alongside SUE that illustrate the world in which she lived. The new gallery will be a state-of-the-art experience worthy of the world's best *T. rex* fossil.

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A full-page background image showing two divers in blue water. One diver is in the foreground, upside down, wearing a black wetsuit and a yellow BCD. The other diver is further back, also upside down. They appear to be surveying a shipwreck or coral reef structure. The water is clear and blue.

Curators Rüdiger Bieler (left) and Petra Sierwald (right) survey a shipwreck in the Florida Keys just before Hurricane Irma struck in September 2017.

Restoring Reefs, Battling Hurricanes

By Franck Mercurio, Editor, with Rüdiger Bieler, PhD, Curator of Zoology, Invertebrates

Protecting, conserving, and resurrecting coral reefs is vital yet challenging work. Climate change, pollution, over-fishing, and invasive species all conspire against the health of underwater ecosystems. Add a hurricane to the mix, and well, you have the perfect storm.

On September 10, 2017, Hurricane Irma swept the Florida Keys, causing widespread damage and imperiling the International Center for Coral Reef Research and Restoration where Field Museum curators Rüdiger Bieler, PhD, Petra Sierwald, PhD, and Research Associate Timothy Collins, PhD, are working on several projects in the world's third-largest barrier reef system.

In the months before Category 4 Hurricane Irma hit, Bieler and his team had completed an extensive survey of invasive marine invertebrates living in artificial reefs at the sites of sunken ships. A PBS film crew followed the team's research efforts for the television series *Changing Seas* and focused particularly on the new species of worm-snail (*Thylacodes vandyensis*), which the team had described from a Key West shipwreck in early 2017. (The episode will air later this year.)

Similar to the case of a giant Pacific oyster, which the team found in the Keys during a 2003 survey, the new snail might stem from the Pacific and could become invasive, says Bieler. "These snails and clams might have stowed away in bilge water or the hulls of cargo ships, and once they arrived here, they were the perfect colonizers."

The film crew captured Bieler and his team diving

beneath the waves to investigate the shipwreck sites and retrieve so-called "Autonomous Reef Monitoring Structures" (ARMS) for analysis. ARMS units are small collecting devices designed to mimic the structures of coral reefs and attract colonizing invertebrates.

"We managed to retrieve nine of our ARMS units from their deployment sites in the Florida Keys reef and process the specimens at the research lab," said Bieler.

"The project has relevance for monitoring reef health, recognizing invasive species, and researching cryptic reef fauna." The ARMS data are now being analyzed in partnership with the Smithsonian Institution.

Shortly after the team completed their fieldwork, the hurricane struck. Bieler and his colleagues evacuated and managed to transport recently collected material out of the region. The research lab on Summerland Key survived the storm's high winds, but many surrounding structures were destroyed.

"There's nothing good about Irma's impact," said Bieler. "But as far as the project is concerned, we will remain on track, and the planned work for 2018 will be even more important because our baseline data give us insight into the impact of a massive hurricane on the natural and restored sites." **ITF**

A TALE OF TWO OCTOPUSES

By Janet Voight, Curator, Invertebrate Zoology

How does a researcher tell two species apart? Typically, after studying various specimens over time and talking to other experts, a scientist learns which traits are important in distinguishing species.

But in the case of deep-sea creatures—which aren't always easy to observe—some fundamental assessments have yet to be done. How do scientists distinguish two species from one another within a group of animals that has been understudied and there are simply no other experts to consult?

I found myself in that position, studying a species of deep-sea octopus from the North Pacific. Over the course of many research cruises, I'd gradually amassed enough representative specimens to try and figure out if these animals differed from one another. At some point, I realized I didn't know how one named species was distinguished from another. So I decided to compare two deep-sea octopuses of the genus *Graneledone* that live in two different oceans with no chance of intermingling. By comparing them, I could more easily identify the characteristics that separate species.

Working with my colleague Jessica Kurth, PhD, of Pennsylvania State University, we created a way to document the group's most distinctive trait: warts, which every scientific report of this type of octopus mentions. Using specimens from the Field Museum's collections, we looked at wart number, wart bumpiness, and wart location on the body and the arms. Although wart location isn't often reported, in fact it best helped us to separate *Graneledone verrucosa* of the North Atlantic from the *Graneledone pacifica* of the North Pacific.

Relative bumpiness and number of warts didn't seem to matter in distinguishing the two species from one another. Instead, it was all about location, location, location. *G. verrucosa* has fewer warts at the tip of the mantle, and arm warts are present only relatively close to the body; in contrast, *G. pacifica* has dense warts at the tip of the body and the arm warts extend farther down the arms.

While DNA analysis is useful in differentiating between species, it's not always possible. Our study



Graneledone pacifica near Davidson Seamount, located about 120 km (75 miles) south-west of Monterey Bay (top). *Graneledone verrucosa* off Virginia, USA, south of Norfolk Canyon (bottom).

included specimens collected in the 1950s, and the tissue wasn't preserved for DNA work. Much of the study of these animals uses video or still images taken by submersibles; so being able to separate species by simply looking at them is really helpful. Sometimes a scientist has to start from scratch to see things clearly. ■■

125th Anniversary

EGYPTIAN collection

Over the course of its 125-year history, The Field Museum's ancient Egyptian collection has proven to be one of its most popular. The following is a selection of highlights from the collection, all on view in the Museum's permanent exhibition *Inside Ancient Egypt*.

MASTABA OF UNIS ANHK

The Field Museum's Egyptian mastaba or stone tomb was acquired in 1908 and transported—block by block—from its excavation site in Saqqara. The mastaba did not contain a burial; instead it housed offering chapels to Unis Anhk, the son of Unis, the last pharaoh of the Fifth Dynasty. The actual burial chamber was located underground, below the mastaba itself. *Inside Ancient Egypt* echoes this typical arrangement: visitors enter the exhibition through the mastaba before descending to the lower level to view the Museum's collection of mummies and sarcophagi.

The mastaba of Unis Ankh was excavated in 1908 by archaeologist James Quibell near Pharaoh Djoser's stepped pyramid at Saqqara.

FUNERARY BOAT OF PHARAOH SENROSRET III

Excavated by French archaeologist Jacques de Morgan in 1894 and purchased for The Field Museum by Mrs. Cyrus McCormick, this funerary boat was one of several buried with Senwosret III, the fifth pharaoh of the 12th Dynasty. The boat made scientific history in the late 1940s when Willard F. Libby, PhD, of the University of Chicago used one of its planks to test the (then new) radiocarbon dating method. Through this process, Professor Libby proved the boat is nearly 4,000 years old, aligning with the reign of Senwosret III. In 1960, Libby won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry "for his method to use carbon-14 for age determination in archaeology, geology, geophysics, and other branches of science."

Senwosret III's funerary boat was first exhibited at the old Field Columbian Museum in Jackson Park.





30286 / CSA6605

PRE-DYNASTIC JAR

British archaeologist Flinders Petrie pioneered the systematic excavations of ancient Egyptian sites; and he was one of the first to scientifically identify and date pre-dynastic sites in Egypt. Along with Edward Ayer, The Field Museum's first president, Petrie is considered a "Founding Father" of the Museum's Egyptian collections. He donated an important collection of pre-dynastic objects to the Museum in 1897, including this beautiful jar with spiral designs.

This ceramic jar, excavated from the site of Naqada in 1894, dates from the time period just before the first pharaohs united Upper and Lower Egypt—more than 5,000 years ago.



30286 / CSA6605

BRONZE CAT

This naturalistic bronze sculpture reflects the ancient Egyptians' reverence of cats. Seen as protectors, cats were appreciated for their abilities to hunt and kill rats and snakes. Domesticated cats eventually became associated with the Egyptian goddess Bastet around the time this bronze sculpture was cast, nearly 2,700 years ago—the statue might have even been dedicated to Bastet in a shrine or temple, as suggested in its current display at The Field Museum. From an aesthetic perspective, it is one of the finest Egyptian cat sculptures in any museum collection—and a testament to the importance of cats in Egyptian life.

Emma Ayer, the wife of The Field Museum's first president, Edward Ayer, gifted this handsome bronze cat to the Museum in 1895.



COPTIC TEXTILES

By *Tori Lee*, Exhibition Developer

Deep within The Field Museum's storage areas—locked behind secured doors inside metal cabinets—resides one of the largest collections of Egyptian textiles in the United States. Dozens of drawers labeled "Coptic Textiles, Egypt" contain examples of ancient cloth preserved by the arid Egyptian climate. Scholars are well aware of this vast collection, yet it's not well known outside of academic circles.

When the Greeks—and later the Romans—conquered Egypt, the population became a mix of Greeks, Romans, Jews, and, of course, native Egyptians. After Muslim armies took control of Egypt in the 7th century, the word *Coptic* described Egyptians adhering to Christianity, and today about 10 percent of Egyptians identify as Coptic Christian.

Scholars, however, use the term "Coptic" to refer generally to textiles made in the region between the 1st and 12th centuries AD, spanning both the Roman and Islamic periods. During this time, immense change was happening. New monotheistic religions replaced ancient ones. Empires rose, fell, and split. And the world became more connected than ever.

Coptic textiles reflected that change. A majority of the surviving pieces, including those in The Field Museum's collection, are the embroidered fragments typically cut from the shoulders or knees of woven tunics. These pieces sometimes incorporate Christian imagery including depictions of Jesus, Mary, John the Baptist, and other biblical figures.

The center of this tunic fragment [pictured] on display in The Field Museum's latest special exhibition *Ancient Mediterranean Cultures in Contact*, likely depicts David confronting Goliath. According to Elizabeth Dospěl Williams, a Coptic scholar and content advisor to the exhibition, many examples of this scene have survived.

However, others believe it actually represents the Greek myth of Apollo and Daphne. It might seem difficult to mix up David and Goliath with Apollo and Daphne, but the rich diversity in Egypt during this time makes both scenarios possible. Although scholars disagree, each interpretation demonstrates how cultural exchanges wove through all aspects of life in the ancient Mediterranean. **ITF**

Ancient Mediterranean Cultures in Contact was organized by The Field Museum and runs through April 29.

FIELD FOR ALL

By Alyssa Harsha, Early Childhood Learning Experiences Coordinator

Since 2007, The Field Museum's *Crown Family PlayLab* has introduced children between the ages of two and six to the wonders of nature and the diversity of human cultures. Ten years later, the *PlayLab* continues to provide innovative programming, including **Field for All**, a new suite of programs, events, and resources designed to ensure all families feel welcomed and supported at the Museum.

Field for All includes Sensory Saturdays and Accessibility Days. Both programs are tailored to a variety of people with disabilities and take place in the *PlayLab* at times when it is closed to the general public.

For Sensory Saturdays, noise is reduced and light levels are adjusted to accommodate children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD), and other sensory sensitivities. Participants have responded enthusiastically, saying they love the opportunity to explore the *PlayLab* in a crowd-free, sensory-friendly environment.

Accessibility Days is designed for any group that needs a more private environment with fewer distractions. Participating groups range widely in age and disability, from children with visual impairments to adults with developmental disabilities. Museum educators can modify the *PlayLab* to best accommodate each group, adding adult chairs and tables when needed or adjusting activities to address particular disabilities.



THE LEARNING CENTER / ALYSSA HARSHA

Field for All also offers five unique tours for visitors aged eight to adult. These tailored experiences allow people with learning, developmental, and intellectual disabilities to explore the Museum outside of the *PlayLab*. Tours include: Dinosaurs, Pawnee Culture, Animals in their Habitat, *The Ancient Americas*, and *Northwest Coast and Arctic Peoples*.

Want to participate in Field for All? The Museum has developed a free app to help families prepare for their visits. The Field for All app provides users with a customizable scheduling tool, guides for each subject area inside the *PlayLab*, a sensory map of the space, and even communication cues for both caregivers and children. The app will be expanded this year to include tools to access the entire Museum.

The Field Museum's 125th anniversary year, 2018, holds incredible potential for Field for All programming to grow and strengthen, making the Museum an even more welcoming and friendly destination for all families. **ITF**

Diversifying Our Volunteers

During the process of developing and launching Field for All, the Museum established relationships with community organizations throughout the Chicagoland area, including Park Lawn, an organization that brings in groups of adults with disabilities to volunteer in the *Crown Family PlayLab*. This partnership has resulted in a diverse and representative volunteer corps, where all learners can see themselves reflected in the Museum team.

To register for programs, email accessibilityeducator@fieldmuseum.org.

MEMBER OPPORTUNITIES

For up-to-date information on all member events, visit fieldmuseum.org/memberevents.

Travel with The Field Museum

**Dynasties of China and Tibet:
the Himalayas and the Yangtze
May 26–June 9, 2018**

In partnership with Gohagan Travels, journey with The Field Museum through China and Tibet—two lands of stunning beauty and centuries-old civilizations. Travel with the Museum's experts: Gary M. Feinman, MacArthur Curator of Mesoamerican, Central American, and East Asian Anthropology, and Linda Nicholas, Adjunct Curator of Anthropology. Each will bring in-depth knowledge and understanding of these ancient cultures.

For more information about this trip, visit fieldmuseum.org/at-the-field/programs/travel-field-museum.



67th Annual Members' Nights

Don't miss out on the most exclusive and engaging event at The Field Museum: Members' Nights! Field Museum members are invited to explore our vast behind-the-scenes areas, which are normally off limits to the public—and this year the event will be even bigger as we celebrate The Museum's 125th anniversary. This is your chance to speak with Field Museum scientists, curators, and exhibition designers, and learn about all the work that happens at the Museum.

What will you see this year? Reservations are required and space is limited. Check your mailbox in March for your official invitation! For up-to-date information on all member events, visit fieldmuseum.org/memberevents.

**SAVE THE DATE:
MAY 10 & 11, 5-10PM
FREE FOR MEMBERS!**



Field at the Movies

Join The Field Museum in partnership with the Wilmette Theatre for movies, popcorn, and science at the **Field at the Movies** series! Choose to view one, two, or all three selected films. Our Field Museum experts will lead discussions pertaining to the themes of these movies immediately following each screening.

Thursday, February 8, 2018

Grizzly Man Discussion led by Lawrence Heaney, Negaunee Curator of Mammals

Thursday, March 8, 2018

The Birds Discussion led by John Bates, Associate Curator of Birds and Head of Life Sciences

Thursday, April 12, 2018

A New Leaf Discussion led by Matt Von Konrat, Head of Botanical Collections and Adjunct Curator & McCarter Collections Manager



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MUSEUM STORES

Visit the *Mummies* Store

The mystery and sensationalism surrounding mummies can sometimes obscure the fact that mummies were real people: some ordinary, some lauded—but all mummified with purpose: to maintain a connection between the departed and their loved ones or to assist the deceased in their journey through the afterlife.

Explore the fascinating exhibition, *Mummies*, then honor a loved one of your own with a gift from the *Mummies* Store.

Remember, Field Museum members receive a 10 percent discount on all purchases in-store & online, and each purchase helps support The Field Museum's ongoing educational and research efforts. Visit us online today at store.fieldmuseum.org or call us at 312.665.7686.



GN89907C / JOHN WEINSTEIN

SUE'S MOVIN' ON UP!

Exclusive event for Field Museum members and donors

In celebration of The Field Museum's 125th anniversary in 2018, big changes are coming to Stanley Field Hall, including SUE's move to a brand new gallery in the *Griffin Halls of Evolving Planet*. Join us on the evening of January 11 as we celebrate SUE and learn more about the new titanosaur, *Patagotitan mayorum*, joining the Field Museum ranks in 2018.

Visit fieldmuseum.org/memberevents for more information.



MUSEUM CAMPUS NEIGHBORS

ADLER PLANETARIUM

On February 19, our award-winning exhibition, *What is a Planet?* returns! Join the debate over the fate of Pluto and see why "planets" aren't what they used to be. Come celebrate our cosmic home at Adler's 3rd annual Earthfest on April 21 and 22. And, it's never too early to think about summer break! Registration for Adler summer camps opens at 10 am on February 6.

For details, visit www.adlerplanetarium.org

SHEDD AQUARIUM

At Shedd Aquarium's new Kelp Forest habitat, floor-to-ceiling windows put you among leopard sharks, rockfishes, bright orange garibaldis, and towering kelp fronds. *Washed Ashore: Art to Save the Sea* presents 15 animal sculptures crafted with plastic beach trash, plus get to know 32,000 live animals better, during one of the activity-filled Asleep with the Fishes family overnights, February through April.

For details, visit www.sheddaquarium.org



The Field Museum salutes the people of Chicago for their long-standing support of the Museum through the Chicago Park District.

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